

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 INR-05 INRE-00 PA-01
PRS-01 PM-03 L-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 USIE-00 TRSE-00
OMB-01 SNM-02 DODE-00 CIAE-00 DHA-02 EB-04 /046 W
-----086774 262229Z /75-62

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3675

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 WELLINGTON 03047

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
25 JUL 77 REPEATED FOR YOU

QUOTE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 16237

LIMDIS

FOR: PASCOE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, TH, US

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT

PER YOUR REQUEST, FOLLOWING FORWARDED FOR YOUR REVIEW
AND APPROVAL BEFORE TRANSMISSION FROM HERE TO WASHINGTON.

1. FOLLOWING JULY 25 MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER THANIN
(SEPTEL), SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER, AMBASSADOR AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF PARTY CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT
FOR GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

2. IN DISCUSSION U.S.- THAI RELATIONS, CHRISTOPHER
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POINTED TO THE BASIC DURABILITY OF OUR TIES AND
USG RECOGNITION OF THAILAND AS A GOOD AND OLD FRIEND.
CHRISTOPHER NOTED THAT AS CONDITIONS IN SOUTHEAST
ASIA CHANGED, WE HOPE THAT OUR COOPERATION IN NEW
PEACEFUL PROJECTS WILL BE THE BASIS FOR EVEN
BETTER LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS. ALTHOUGH OUR
MILITARY PRESENCE NO LONGER EXISTS, IT DOES NOT

DIMINISH THE IMPORTANCE WE GIVE TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THAILAND.

3. WITH REGARD TO ASEAN, CHRISTOPHER NOTED THAT WE BELIEVE OUR RELATIONS ARE BASED ON A FIRM FOUNDATION OF FRIENDSHIP, WE ARE PLEASED WITH RECENT ASEAN DEVELOPMENTS AND WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THEM. UPPADIT SAID THAT ALL OF THE ASEAN COUNTRIES ARE MOST PLEASED ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF ASEAN-US DIALOGUE AT THE FORTHCOMING MANILA MEETING.

4. FOR HIS PART, FONMIN SAID RTG DEEPLY APPRECIATES GENEROUS U.S. ATTITUDE AND EXPRESSION OF

FRIENDSHIP CONVEYED BY DEPUTY SECRETARY. HE SAID THAT RTG EARLIER IN YEAR HAD BEEN CONCERNED THAT USG WAS TURNING ITS BACK ON SOUTHEAST ASIA BUT RECENT USG STATEMENTS AND VISIT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY HIMSELF HAD PUT THESE CONCERNS TO REST.

5. IN MOVING TO SPECIFIC POLICY CONCERNS, CHRISTOPHER CONVEYED TO FONMIN THAT IMPORTANCE WHICH WE ATTACH TO THAI EFFORTS IN NARCOTICS FIELD. UPPADIT ASSURED SECRETARY THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN RTG POLICY ON SUPPRESSING DRUG TRAFFIC.

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6. ON HUMAN RIGHTS, CHRISTOPHER POINTED OUT THE DEEP AND CONTINUING COMMITMENT OF PRESIDENT CARTER TO THE MORAL VALUES INHERENT IN OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES AND THE IMPORTANCE AND SENSITIVITY WE ATTACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT WE ALL HAVE TO ASPIRE TO DO BETTER.

7. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER QUERIED FONMIN

ON STATE OF RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. FONMIN SAID THAT ASEAN NATIONS HAVE AGREED TO TRY TO DEVELOP DIRECT RELATIONS WITH INDO-CHINA STATES. HOWEVER, THE LPDR/SRV COMMUNIQUE IS NOT CONDUCTIVE TO FOSTERING GOOD RELATIONS. DESPITE ASEAN EFFORTS TO MAKE CLEAR THEIR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, THE COMMUNIST STATES CONTINUE TO BE SUSPICIOUS. HOWEVER, THE ASEAN COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO DEVELOP BETTER RELATIONS WITH THE INDO-CHINESE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. FONMIN STRESSED PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE THAI GIVE TO NEED FOR CLOSE RELATIONS

WITH LAOS.

8. IN LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THAI RELATIONS WITH SRV, FONMIN INDICATED THAT THAI DELEGATION WOULD PARTICIPATE IN MEKONG COMMISSION MEETING IN VIENTIANE JULY 26. RTG BELIEVED THAT THIS MEETING WAS FIRST STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION AND IF THE COMMISSION COULD GET OFF TO A GOOD START IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO SRV AND LPDR THE MUTUAL BENEFITS OF WORKING COOPERATIVELY FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS IN THE AREA.

9. MORE GENERALLY, UPPADIT SAID THE RTG CONSIDERS BASIC SRV/RTG COMMUNIQUE OF AUG 6, 1976 STILL VALID. IF ITS
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PRINCIPLES ARE FOLLOWED BY BOTH SIDES, GOOD RELATIONS WILL BE POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, RTG IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE. IT HAS EVIDENCE THAT SRV HAS HAD A HAND IN ASSISTING INSURGENTS AND HAS BEEN SITE OF TRAINING OF INSURGENTS. HOWEVER, IF THE SRV WILL UPHOLD THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE, BOTH SIDES COULD MOVE TO BETTER THEIR RELATIONS.

10. UPPADIT DESCRIBED EFFORTS NOW IN MOTION TO ESTABLISH DIALOGUE TO IMPROVE THAI-SRV RELATIONS

HE INDICATED THAT IT HAS FINALLY BEEN AGREED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS IN VIENTIANE ON QUESTION OF EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS. HOWEVER, SRV HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO INITIATE SUCH DISCUSSIONS WITHOUT

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3676

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 WELLINGTON 03047

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y MRN (03047 VICE 03048)

PRESENCE OF A THAI AMBASSADOR. CONSEQUENTLY, RTG
HAS APPOINTED AN AMBASSADOR TO VIENTIANE WHO WILL
TAKE UP HIS DUTIES SOON AND BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS
WITH SRV AMBASSADOR.

11. CHRISTOPHER ASKED FONMIN ABOUT STATE OF THAI
RELATIONS WITH PRC AND WHETHER RECENT INTERNAL
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS THERE WILL HAVE ANY IMPACT. UPPADIT
SAID RTG THOUGHT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO EFFECT ON
THAI RELATIONS WITH CHINA. THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR
HAS ASSURED RTG THAT CURRENT CHINESE POLICY TOWARD
THAILAND WOULD CONTINUE AND THAT PRC CONSIDERS
OCTOBER 6 INCIDENT AS AN INTERNAL THAI MATTER.
FOR ITS PART, RTG WANTS TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS
WITH THE PRC. BURKE UNQUOTE SELDEN

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